

"Long to grow up into the fullness of your salvation" 1 Peter 2:2



Living Stones

1 Peter 2:2-10

Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 7, 2023

EBENSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Ebensburg, Pennsylvania 15931

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Mission Statement
"Ebensburg Presbyterians
are Christians giving help
and hope to all by sharing God's love."

GATHERING

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER (*in unison*)

O Lord our God,
we give you thanks for the new life you raise up in
us through the mystery of our baptism—the sorrow of the heavy
cross, the surprise of the empty tomb, the love that death could not
destroy. By the power of your Holy Spirit, poured out upon us in
baptism, fill us with the joy of resurrection, so that we may be a living
sign of your new heaven and new earth; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP¹ (*Responsively*)

We come together as the church;
not a building of wood or stone,
but a spiritual house.

We will be the living stones
that shout praise even when others are silent.
God redeems us,
joins us together,
and builds us up.

* HYMN#379 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less (vs 1-3)

CALL TO CONFESSIONS:

1John 1:9

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (*Responsively*)

Christ,
our way, our truth, our life, you have shown us the way,
so clearly and fully. You have not simply told us how to live,
you have shown us. But we still don't get it.
We do not believe all you have said to us;
we do not trust the way you have shown us.
Help us, O God.
Forgive us.
Open our ears to your truth,
open our eyes to your way,
and lead us into new life. Amen (*silent Prayer*)

¹ CTW 561A

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (*Responsibly*)

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Jesus prepares a place for us, Jesus brings us close to him, Jesus answers us even in our unbelief.

We are God's own people.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

*GLORIA PATRI

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (*responsively*)

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also, with you.**
(*Please share the peace of Christ with those around.*)

CHOIR ANTHEM

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

SCRIPTURES

FIRST READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10 Page

SECOND READING: John 14:1-14 Page.

The Word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God!

SERMON LONGING TO GROW

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMNS#393 Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said (vs1&4)

INVITATION & PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING 2 Corinthians 9:7

GREAT THANKSGIVING and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God:

You are our shepherd, O Lord, and in you there is nothing we lack.

You lead us to green pastures and still waters; you restore our souls.

You prepare a table before us; the cup of blessing overflows! Therefore,

we praise you, joining the song of the universal church and the

heavenly choir:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God:

You are our shepherd, O Lord, and in you there is nothing we lack.

You lead us to green pastures and still waters; you restore our souls.

You prepare a table before us; the cup of blessing overflows! Therefore,

we praise you, joining the song of the universal church and the

heavenly choir:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and cup;

make us one in the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Like the first believers, fill us with the awe and wonder of your presence,

through your teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread and prayer.

Help us to share what we have and give to those who are in need...

Through the Lord Jesus Christ we bless you, God of glory and pray in

unison as Jesus taught us to pray saying: **Our Father...**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BREAKING THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*in unison*)

Thank you, O God, for giving us communion with our risen and glorious Lord. Now send us out to be a sign of the new life that has come into the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

SENDING

*HYMNS#396 O for a Closer Walk with God (vs 1, 3&4)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

2 Thess. 3:16, 18

Now may the Lord of peace always give you peace.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you. **Amen**

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

**Please stand as you are able.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Major Repair Project

The Session leadership agreed on restoring storm windows of our church to help preserve stained-glass windows. The bid from Servpro of \$76,000 was accepted and the work will begin as the weather allows. We need your prayers and prayerfully, please consider donating to the Major Repair Fund. Contact pastor Owar or one of our leaders.

Young Disciples—Youth Program and Confirmation Class—*Sunday, May 14th @6:00-7:30pm*

Bible2020 Program—Our Bible Study Wednesdays @7pm

REDSTONE PRESBYTERY: Tuesday, May 23, 2023@6pm

April Birthdays and Announcements

May 7 Lucas Taylor

May 11 Kayt Makosy Williamson

May 14 Owar Ojha Ojulu

May 21 Ojha Owar Ojha

May 23 Kevin McKenrick, Chase Forberger

May 24 Neil McKenrick

May 26 David Sowers

May 29 Sarah Elizabeth Segear

May 31 Jim Stratton

Ebensburg-Colver Joint Service—Pentecost Sunday, May 28th 2023

Session Meeting--Monday, May 8th @7pm

You may join our church in one of three ways:

Transfer from another congregation.

Reaffirm your faith if you have not been an active church member recently.

Profess Jesus as Savior and Lord.

Please talk to the pastor or one of the leaders ``

PRAYER LIST

If you have any names, you would like added to the Prayer List, please call the church office at 472-6920 or place the names in the Offering Baskets near each of the front entrances. Thank you.

Eva Tomb

Ray McKim

Jim Estep

Ramona McKim

Candi Elam

Ben & Patricia Tuchi

Peter & Margaret Funch

Albie

Tom R.

Joe P

Erin M.

Marty F.

Claudette Segear

John Fedora

Sharon Westrick

Ruthan Noderer

Gloria P.

Mary R. ``

Father Pat Kirsch

Bob & Mary Clare Stofko

Richard McKim